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Director of Central Intelligence

Assistant Director, Reports and Estimates

Representations to ID, GSUSA in re ATIS Service Discontinuance

REFERENCE : a) Airgram 209, 23 August 1949, U.S. Political Advisor, Tokyo to State.

b) Airgram A-154, 2 September 1949, Acheson to U.S. Political Advisor, Tokyo.

1. Reference a was notification to Department of State that it has been proposed to discontinue ATIS Press Translations and Summaries.

2. Reference b in reply advises that State is of the opinion that the ATIS publications are valuable and should be continued at least temporarily until plans can be formulated for substitute coverage of the Japanese press. It further states that the Department is holding discussions with Army on the subject of interim continuation of the service.

3. The Far East/Pacific Branch, ORE, considers subject publications of material value. At the instance of this branch, inquiries have been made to determine whether the Office of Operations can render like service, but it appears that the full scope of ATIS service can not be duplicated by that office.

4. The Office of Collection and Dissemination has explored the matter with ID, GSUSA and finds little or no operational level interest in ATIS publications.

5. Accordingly it is believed that a representation from you to the Director of Intelligence, GSUSA, may lend weight to the State request that interim continuance is advisable, and that Department of the Army's message to SCAP to this effect would indicate joint interest of State and CIA.

6. It is therefore recommended that the attached memorandum to the Director of Intelligence, GSUSA, be signed and dispatched and an information copy be furnished to the Special Assistant to the Secretary of State for Intelligence.

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